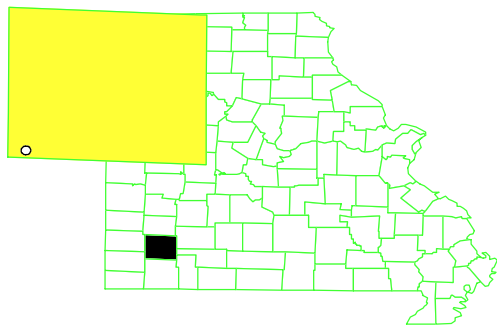


SYNTEX FACILITY

MISSOURI

EPA ID# MOD007452154



EPA Region 7

City: Verona, 30 miles southwest of Springfield

County: Lawrence County

Other Names: Spring River Basin

Syntex Tank Spill Area

Hoffman-Taff Lagoons-Former

Syntex Detoxification Area

Syntex Trenches

Slough Area-Hoffman/Taff

Lagoons

SITE DESCRIPTION

The Syntex Facility is a 180-acre site located in rural, predominantly agricultural Verona. In October 1996, Syntex Agribusiness, Inc., sold DuCoa L.P., a Dupont/Con Agra limited partnership. Hoffman-Taff produced 2,4,5-T at the facility for use in the production of the defoliant more commonly known as Agent Orange. Syntex Agri-Syntex Agribusiness, Inc. leased a portion of the plant in 1969 to the Northeastern Pharmaceutical Chemical Company (NEPACCO) and has produced vitamins and prepared animal feeds and feed ingredients from 1971 until 1996. From 1969 to 1971, NEPACCO leased a portion of the facility from Syntex and used it to manufacture hexachlorophene. The production of hexachlorophene generated waste streams containing dioxin. Dioxin residues were disposed of in five areas at the Verona facility. The major areas identified as being contaminated are: the slough area; lagoon area; spill area/irrigation area; burn area; and trench area. In 1989, Syntex excavated and transported the wastes from the burn, slough, irrigation, and lagoon areas to a mobile incinerator to destroy the dioxin. The incineration was completed in 1989. The population within 3 miles of the Syntex Facility site is approximately 650 people. The active portion of the facility is located within the Spring River 100-year flood plain.

Site Responsibility:

This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible parties' actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 12/30/82

Final Date: 09/08/83

Deleted Date:

THREATS AND CONTAMINANTS

Description: The fish in the Spring River were contaminated with dioxin up to 12 miles downstream of the site. The soil, pools, puddles, and groundwater on the site also are contaminated with dioxin and volatile organic compounds. However, groundwater contamination is only slightly higher than background levels. Exposure to dioxin-contaminated soil, drinking contaminated water, or eating fish that have been contaminated by dioxin could present a health threat.

CLEANUP APPROACH

Response Action Status

Dioxin-Contaminated Soils and Equipment: EPA selected a remedy in 1988 to address the contaminated soils and equipment at the site. The selected cleanup remedy included: excavating and off-site thermal treatment of dioxin-contaminated soil that exceeds a health-based criteria for an industrial site; dismantling and decontaminating equipment with a series of solutions and water rinses; and installing a clay cap with a vegetative cover over the trench area, backfilling and vegetating excavated areas and revegetating areas contaminated with dioxin above federal approved levels. Syntex removed contaminated soil above 20 parts per billion dioxin concentration and transported it off site for incineration. The ash residue was disposed of off site as well. This action also involved clay capping and revegetating over the trench area and all areas where waste levels were above 1 part per billion. The final cleanup included decontamination of the equipment at the site. Decontamination and dismantling of contaminated photolysis and old NEPACCO equipment was completed in 1997.

Ground water: In early 1993, Syntex completed the groundwater studies, and a remedy decision was issued that states that no further action is required at this time, since contamination is within established health-based standards. Monitoring will continue on a quarterly basis for 2 years to ensure the continued protectiveness of the remedy.

Description:

Site Facts: In August 1982, Syntex signed a Consent Order with the EPA in which the company agreed to study the disposal sites and Spring River, under the authority of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). In September 1983, Syntex Agribusiness and the EPA entered into a Consent Agreement, which outlined the plan the company would follow in cleaning up the Syntex site.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS



Much of the cleanup work at the Syntex site has been completed. Contaminated soils have been removed and formerly contaminated areas have been capped and revegetated all contaminated equipment has been treated and disposed. These actions have reduced the potential for exposure to dioxin contamination at the site. Further monitoring of groundwater is taking place. Dioxin levels in Spring River fish populations have steadily decreased over the past several years.

SITE REPOSITORY



Varon Elementary School, 1011 Ella,
Verona, MO 65769

Superfund Records Center
901 N. 5th St.
Kansas City, KS 66101
Mail Stop SUPR
(913)551-4038

REGIONAL CONTACTS

SITE MANAGER:

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

Steve Sanders

sanders.steve@www.epamail.gov

(913) 551-7578

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

COORDINATOR:

PHONE NUMBER:

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER:

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

STATE CONTACT:

PHONE NUMBER:

Jerry Foster

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

STATE:

PACIFIC ISLAND(S):

0751

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

07

EPA ORGANIZATION:

SFD-M0KS/SUPR

MODIFICATIONS